

BOARD NOTES  
February 24, 2014

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday, February 24, 2014 with Al Williamson, Dale Groves, Bernie Baltes and Phil King present. Rich Shail was absent.

Al Williamson reviewed guidelines for speaking on agenda items.

**INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION**

- Kristina Pentlow, teacher at NPMS, presented her team of students who placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the State of Indiana for the innovative App they created. They entered their App essay and video in the Verizon App Challenge competition. The students are: Abigail Doorn, Arianna Lee, Elizabeth Wilkinson, Allison Doorn, and Kaley Sikorsky. The young ladies explained their winning project. All the Board members applauded the students. Mrs. Pentlow explained that the students will now work with MIT to actually create their App. The students will be allowed to sell their award winning App upon its creation. Mr. Dermody concluded the presentation with his congratulations.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

- The Board approved the Consent Items as follows:
  - Minutes – January 30, 2014 & February 4, 2014
  - Financial Reports
  - Claims
  - Payroll
  - Personnel Report as follows:

**CERTIFIED**

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
- Employment
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
  1. Kevin Macias – Rolling Prairie Elementary School Science Fair Sponsor
  2. Kevin Macias – Rolling Prairie Elementary School Co-History Fair Sponsor
  3. Vincent Dominello – Rolling Prairie Elementary School Co-History Fair Sponsor
  4. Benjamin White – Rolling Prairie Elementary School Part-Time Vocal Director
  5. Dena True – NPMS Science Fair Coordinator

## **NON-CERTIFIED**

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
  1. Thomas Dudeck –Mechanic – Bus Garage - **Resignation** as of 3/4/14.
  2. Floyd Tibbs – Bus Driver – **Retirement** as of 2/4/14.
- Employment
  1. Teresa Osborne – Olive Elementary – Instructional Aide as of 2/6/14
  2. Johanna Pickett – Bus Driver - Transfer from a single route to a double route #39.
  3. Cara Holmes - Substitute Driver – Transfer to permanent driver for the single Olive route #37.
  4. Sharin McGuire – Substitute Driver – Transfer to permanent driver for the single high School route #15.
  5. Bob DeMeyer – Bus Mechanic –Transfer to Lead Bus Mechanic with a salary increase from \$20.30 to \$22.18.
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
  1. Cathleen Lower – Co-Letterman’s Club Sponsor – NPHS
  2. Ryan Balanow – ½ Assistant Wrestling Coach – NPMS
- Adjustments
  1. Reed Monesmith – IT Building Technician - Increase hourly wage from \$13.00 to \$14.00 due to increase in duties.
  2. Carrie Cannon – Director of Curriculum - \$1000 Stipend for working non-contracted days on the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant.
  3. Rhonda Myers – Principal Prairie View -\$1000 Stipend for working non-contracted days on the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant.
  4. Mark Yates – Asst. Principal NPMS – Addendum to Administrator’s Contract
  5. Chris Gesse - PV Teacher - \$360.00 stipend for the development of curricular programming for the after school program as approved by the Title I budget.
  6. Lauren Dyer – PV Title I Teacher - \$360.00 stipend for the development of curricular programming for the after school program as approved by the Title I budget.
  7. Jarrett Spence – RP Teacher - \$180.00 stipend for the development of curricular programming for the after school program as approved by the Title I budget.
  8. Melanie Groves - NPHS Teacher - Teaching contract extension for the use of plan time used for ECA Math remediation at 28.13 per hour beginning February 26, 2014 through June 2, 2014.

Mr. Dermody recognized Floyd Tibbs, NPUSC Bus Driver, who retired as of 2/4/14 after 22 1/2 years of dedicated service to the Corporation. Mr Dermody also recognized the resignation of Tom Dudeck as of 3/4/14 after 24 years as Lead Mechanic in the Transportation Department.

## **REPORTS**

- Superintendent's Reports
  - This summer the Phase II Energy Saving Plan begins. Replacement ventilators will be installed at Rolling Prairie Elementary School. The Activity Center will be moved for the summer to Prairie View Elementary.
  - Kindergarten Round-Up will be starting in a couple of weeks.
  - The LaPorte Family YMCA has expressed an interest in discussing the possible establishment of a Pre-School program at Rolling Prairie Elementary.
  - Friday, February 28, 2014 is the Read Across America Day. Everyone in the Corporation will stop and read for 15 minutes.
  - The NPMS Math Bowl took 1<sup>st</sup> place in a Valparaiso University competition last week.
  - Ben Burns was named LaPorte County Champion Speller. NPUSC spellers performed well at recent competition.
  - NPMS Robotics Team 5300 qualified for the State Championship.
  - The ISTEP+/IREAD3 testing window is extended because of delays. The window opens on March 3, 2014.
  - Mr. Dermody wanted to recognize Mr. Kim Zahrt, former NPHS Science Teacher, who passed away recently. He was a respected teacher.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- The Board accepted a Donation of \$250.00 from Unifrax for the NPHS Robotics Team
- The Board approved The New Prairie Little League and Rolling Prairie Baseball Association Agreements
- The Board approved the 2014-2015 School Calendar
- The Board approved the Liability Insurance Renewal
- The Board approved the Employment Agreements
- The Board approved the Drivers Education Program & Fees – 2014
- The Board approved the proposal from NIES Engineering, Inc. for the services related to the Prairie View Elementary School Well.
- The Board approved the Resolution of Support for Indiana to Observe Central Time Zone
- The Board approved the Make-Up Day Proposal which included postponing the NPHS graduation ceremony from June 1 to June 8, 2014.

## **BOARD COMMENTS**

- Bernie Baltus mentioned an article that he read on poverty and wealth. The general idea of the column is how you end up in life is a direct result of the choices we make. He liked how the columnist emphasized using a common sense approach to life.